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INDEX ANALYSIS OF FEDERAL STATUTES TOGETHER WITH A TABLE OF REPEALS AND AMENDMENTS. By SCOTT and BEAMAN. Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office. 1908. pp. v. 1373.

This ponderous volume has been issued by the Federal government primarily as an aid to our national legislators. In so far as its purpose is to assist the Federal law-makers in their search for the law, the book seems of true value and likely to become indispensable.

Thirteen hundred pages are devoted to a complete and comprehensive index of all the statute law of a public or general nature, contained in the United States Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Fifty pages are given over to tables of repeals and amendments to the Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. The work is concluded with a seven page table of the popular names of the Federal statutes, alphabetically arranged, showing their proper citations,—e. g., "Dingley Act (Tariff) July 24, 1897, 30 St. L. 151," "Spooner Act (Isthmial Canal) June 28, 1902, 32 St. L. 481."

The necessity for a thorough index of our national laws is apparent from the history of the Federal statutory system. From 1789 to 1845 the laws were published annually. There was no attempt at an official compilation, although in 1827 there appeared a volume of all the laws of a public nature, edited "under the inspection of" Mr. Justice Story. As the bulk of Federal legislation rapidly increased, Congress authorized the publication of the "Statutes at Large," the eight volumes of which were brought out in 1845. The first six volumes contained all laws, other than private acts indexed and arranged according to sessions, the seventh, the treaties with Indian tribes, and the eighth our European treaties. Repeated additions of the Statutes at Large imposed upon the public official and the practicing lawyer the labor of searching for the law on a given subject through so many separate volumes, that in 1874, Congress finally codified in the Revised Statutes, all the Federal statutes in force on December 1, 1873. In spite of the publication of subsequent editions of this revision and supplements thereto, substantially all of the Federal statutes since 1873 must be cited by reference to the Statutes at Large. An alphabetically arranged edition of the Revised Statutes still in force and those of the Statutes at Large that are general and permanent, put forth by private enterprise in 1901, under the title of "Compiled Statutes," is a work of much practical value. A new revision of all the Federal statutes recently prepared by a commission under Congressional authority, will probably be adopted by Congress. The index compiled by Messrs. Scott and Beaman has been prepared in a painstaking and thorough manner, and ought to prove of great value for research work, but its size, and the fact that most students and practitioners can find such Federal statutes as they need in textbooks—e. g. on Admiralty, Patents, or Federal practice—render the work one rather to be kept accessible on the shelves of a Bar Association library, than in the law school or office.

CASES ON THE CONFLICT OF LAWS. By ERNEST G. LORENZEN. St. Paul: WEST PUBLISHING Co. 1908. pp. xxi, 784.

This volume constitutes a unit in the American Case Book Series of which twenty-six publications are announced. Five have already made